

Appendix G

VA TRI HISTORICAL TREND

Since its inception, the TRI program has been expanding and evolving, providing more information to the public about the presence and release of toxic and hazardous chemicals in communities. In fact, over the past 17 years, major regulatory changes have occurred that made the direct historical comparison of releases from 1988 to 2005 difficult and potentially misleading (see Appendix D for details). The information in this appendix is historical and for general comparison only.

During the early years of the program there were no major reporting changes. From 1988 until 1994 the consistency between reporting sectors and chemicals made comparison straightforward.¹

The first major change in reporting requirements was the addition of 286 chemicals and chemical categories to the TRI list beginning with reporting year 1995. The addition of chemicals in reporting year 1995 created a new baseline for TRI comparisons. A second major change was the inclusion of seven new non-manufacturing sectors (sectors that had not previously reported) to the TRI facility coverage beginning in the 1998 reporting year. With this change, 1998 became the new baseline for historical comparison. The third major change began with reporting year 2000, when seven chemicals and two chemical categories were added to the TRI chemical list. These chemicals, and chemical categories must be subtracted from reporting year 2000, 2001, and 2002 data to make comparison to 1998 and 1999 more accurate.

It should be noted that beginning with reporting year 2001, lead and lead compounds were re-designated as PBT chemicals, and the threshold for reporting was reduced to 100 pounds. This caused facilities to submit more reports for lead and lead compounds for reporting years 2001 and 2002.

Table G-1 shows the amounts of releases to each media for the reporting years 1998 through 2005 (without specified PBTs, or vanadium and vanadium compounds). Facility revisions for previous reporting years were not included in this comparison of on-site releases.

Table G-1. On-Site Releases Comparison from 1998 – 2005 (from Section 5 of Form R)

Media	1998 (pounds)	1999 (pounds)	2000 (pounds)	2001 (pounds)	2002 (pounds)	2003 (pounds)	2004 (pounds)	2005 (pounds)	Percent Change 1998 - 2005
Air	63,917,097	61,406,080	58,848,923	57,127,421	56,923,331	50,962,772	48,124,542	41,167,066	-55.26%
Water	6,301,409	6,157,115	8,190,510	7,000,339	8,262,375	8,199,535	8,681,965	9,880,733	36.23%
Land	4,392,513	5,344,373	5,955,480	6,442,197	5,973,503	5,612,934	5,612,934	4,865,708	9.73%
Total	74,611,019	72,907,568	72,994,913	70,569,957	71,159,209	64,775,241	62,419,441	55,913,507	-33.44%

Chapter Four of the Virginia 2007 TRI Report covers the reporting period 2005 to 2007, and it includes all chemicals and chemical compounds, and all facility revisions received through January 30, 2009.

¹ Please refer to the 2003 TRI Report on DEQ SARA III website for prior historical comparison for 1988 – 1997